

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

<b>Applicant:</b>	Nobuyuki Furukawa	<b>Examiner:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Serial No:</b>	To be assigned	<b>Art Unit:</b>	Unassigned
<b>Filed:</b>	Herewith	<b>Docket:</b>	17019
<b>For:</b>	MEDICAL SYSTEM	<b>Dated:</b>	September 18, 2003

Mail Stop Patent Application  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**

Sir:

In accordance with 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, it is requested that the following references, which are also listed on the attached Form PTO-1449, be made of record in the above-identified case.

1. U.S. Patent No. 6,224,542 B1, dated May 1, 2001, issued to Chang et al.;
2. U.S. Patent No. 5,287,264, dated February 15, 1994, issued to Arita et al.;  
and
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application Publication No. 6-114065,  
published April 26, 1994 together with an English language abstract.

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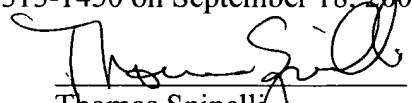
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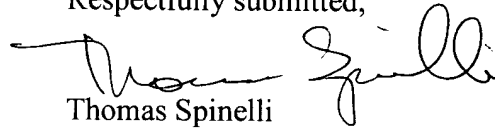
Dated: September 18, 2003

  
Thomas Spinelli

Applicant is submitting a copy of reference 3 together with an English language abstract. References 1 and 2 are not being submitted herewith, as copies of U.S. patents are no longer required per the waiver of 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(2)(i) in effect as of June 30, 2003. The relevance of reference 3 has been described in the specification.

Inasmuch as this Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in accordance with the schedule set out in 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b), no statement or fee is required.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Thomas Spinelli", is written over the printed name.

Thomas Spinelli

Registration No.: 39,533

Scully, Scott, Murphy & Presser  
400 Garden City Plaza  
Garden City, New York 11530  
(516) 742-4343

TS:cm

<b>INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION</b> <i>(Use several sheets if necessary)</i>				Docket Number (Optional) <b>17019</b>		Application Number <b>To be assigned</b>		
				Applicant(s) <b>Nobuyuki Furukawa</b>				
				Filing Date <b>Herewith</b>		Group Art Unit <b>Unassigned</b>		
<b>U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
*EXAMINER INITIAL	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
		US 6,224,542 B1	5/1/2001	Chang et al.				
		5,287,264	2/15/1994	Arita et al.				
<b>FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS</b>								
	REF	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Translation	
							YES	NO
		6-114065	4/26/1994	Japan			✓	
<b>OTHER DOCUMENTS</b> <i>(Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)</i>								
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				
EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP Section 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.								